

## Nazi Agent, Declared Persona Non Grata, Leaves Honduras

Zinsser Was Conducting  
Intensive Propaganda;  
Linked to Gestapo

By the Associated Press.

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras, March 14.—Christian Zinsser, German Charge d'Affaires, left Honduras today for Guatemala—declared persona non grata by the Honduran government.

Zinsser had been conducting intensive Nazi propaganda, including the distribution of pamphlets, photographs and copies of Adolf Hitler's speeches.

Also, he repeatedly requested the Foreign Office to prohibit publication of the book "Yo Fui Camarero de Hitler" (I Was Hitler's Chambermaid) and to prevent the press from publishing news and editorials inimical to Germany.

## Zinsser Most Powerful Nazi in Central America

By NAT A. BARROWS.

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (N.A.N.A.).—The most powerful German agent in Central America until today was Christian Zinsser, the man who helped prepare the scene for the invasion of Poland—the last man to talk to Capt. Hans Langsdorff, of the raider Graf Spee, before he committed suicide—the man who interviewed the youthful, unsympathetic Nazi diplomat, Richard von Heynitz, before his body was found on the slopes of the volcano San Salvador, a suicide.

Zinsser called himself the Charge d'Affaires of the German Legation here in the isolated mountain capital of Honduras. He traveled on an ordinary passport when he first arrived last fall from Buenos Aires by way of Chile and Panama; later he used a diplomatic passport and enjoyed the customary diplomatic immunities.

Until Zinsser arrived in Tegucigalpa, the German commercial and diplomatic interests in Honduras had been served by an honorary consul, who found little enough to do in a country which now has no trade with Germany. The honorary consul, a German business man, contented himself with his own interests and did nothing to spread Nazi propaganda. Many residents here felt that politically he leaned toward the British.

## Predecessor a Suicide.

A few days after the arrival of Zinsser, this consul was found dead in his bathtub. The official verdict was death by heart disease. But his friends asserted that he had been in excellent health and said he was a suicide.

Zinsser set himself up here, in an ancient city far from tourists, where an airplane is the only transportation save for a long and hard automobile trip up from the coast. He presented credentials to the administration of President Tiburcio Carías as the Charge d'Affaires, serving under the German Minister to Honduras, Otto Reinebeck, whose headquarters are in Guatemala City.

Actually Zinsser is a Gestapo



**RIVER DROWNING VICTIM RECOVERED**—Walter Shelton, 26-year-old Navy yard machinist (left), whose body was recovered in Georgetown Channel above Key Bridge yesterday. He was one of five victims of a boating accident New Year Day opposite the Three Sisters. The body of his son Jimmy, 6 (right), was recovered from the river about a month ago. Services for Mr. Shelton will be at 2 p.m. tomorrow from Hysong's chapel and interment will be in Cedar Hill Cemetery.



## First of Army's New Billion-Dollar Arms Plants Opens Today

Undersecretary of War  
Speaks at Dedication  
Of Radford (Va.) Factory

By the Associated Press.

Three months ahead of schedule, a critically-needed smokeless powder plant reached the production stage today, the first of a \$1,000,000,000 string of Government-financed munitions factories.

A group of Government officials headed by Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson, formerly dedicated the huge \$44,000,000 Radford (Va.) plant as "a substantial contribution to our military power."

"We must live and think and act in the present, and the safety of all that is dear to us demands that we keep our powder dry and have a lot of it on hand," Mr. Patterson declared. "That is Radford's job. That is America's job."

Praises Workmen for Speed.

He pointed out that the big plant was being constructed three months ahead of schedule and declared the workmen "could not make their Government a finer present than those 90 days. Time, right now, is more than money. It is security."

The Undersecretary added that "it is stern necessity that compels us to turn this Virginia countryside into a power plant. All of us pray for the day when we can convert the work we are now doing here to the pursuit of peace. No one can say how distant that day may be. It may be nearer than we think."

Maj. Gen. C. M. Wesson, Army chief of ordnance, described the plant as "tangible proof that democracy can in time of stress proceed with speed and efficiency."

Gov. Price and other speakers also paid tribute to the efficiency of

the Hercules Powder Co., which is building and will operate the plant for the Government, and others responsible for speeding the plant into production.

An army of 21,000 workmen, tolling in three shifts around the clock, hustled the scheduled 10-month construction job through in seven and met the War Department's pressure for speed. The 4,400-acre project was given top priority because of the threatened ammunition shortage which would affect not only the nation's expanding defense forces, but also the plans to make the United States the "arsenal of democracy."

Army's Powder Supply Doubled.

The first production line will start full-time operations the beginning of next week. Its expected daily output of 100,000 pounds will more than double the Army's existing flow of powder from one arsenal and smaller commercial sources.

Two additional production lines are scheduled to start operating by June, and meanwhile the Army expects to have a third line, an even larger powder mill—the \$60,000,000 plant at Charlestown, Ind.

A third plant, at Childersburg, Ala., is due to start work in the summer.

The Army's manufacturing arsenal at Picatinny, N. J., and two commercial plants in the same State have been producing only 50,000 or 75,000 pounds a day, their entire output for a year being sufficient for only one or two days of such full-scale warfare as the World War Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Plant Under Heavy Guard.

Radford's entire output will be "propellants," the powder which sends bullets and cannon shells on their way.

Between 4,500 and 5,000 will be required to operate the establishment at full capacity next summer.

As a precaution against accident or sabotage the powder plant has been under heavy guard since its start and a special police force of 134 men built up.

The plant includes more than 600 scattered buildings of all types and more than 18 miles of railroad have been built.

With the three major powder plants in full operation months hence, the Army's output will still lag behind peak production of the World War, which approached a billion pounds a year. The powder plants hurriedly constructed then were scrapped in the post-war era.

U. S. Mine Inspection  
Approved by House

Annual Federal inspection of all coal mines was approved by the House yesterday without a vote in opposition. The bill endorsed by the United Mine Workers of America, had been before Congress for more than a year. It now goes to the Senate, which approved a somewhat similar inspection bill in January, 1940.

The measure would require an annual inspection by the Bureau of Mines, and such additional inspections as were deemed necessary by the Secretary of the Interior. It would empower the Federal Government to enter any mine—a power now available only on permission of mine owners—and authorize publication of findings of Federal inspectors.

The new railway bridge over the Rangitikei River in New Zealand, has been completed.

## Polish Envoy's Son, Now at G. U., Plans To Join R. A. F.

Chick Ciechanowski, 17,  
Optimistic Over His  
Country Rising Again

London just now is "pretty messy," what with Hitler's bombing driving people underground, so when the 17-year-old son of the new Polish Ambassador goes back again, he hopes to go as a pilot of the R. A. F.

"Chick," as young Ladislas Ciechanowski has become known to fellow students after two weeks at Georgetown University, was captain of the flyweight boxing team at Ampleforth College, in England, and is not the type to take kindly to the defeatist attitude sometimes encountered in this country.

Some people, he says, take the attitude: "Why don't you Poles admit you're licked?"

This, he added, makes him madder than did the big air raids he experienced in London last September and the fire raids of December.

Handy With His Fists.

The diminutive Chick, who speaks with a precise Oxford accent, nevertheless manages to make himself clear. His new friends, on the campus say he's handy with his fists and quick on his feet. Too, Georgetown athletes of Polish extraction were delighted to find a new student who could converse with them in the tongue of the old country.

Chick is living in Old North dormitory on the Hilltop in preference to the Sixteenth street Embassy where his family is now settled. He is taking classes in French, history and psychology, and plans to go to Canada after the university closes in June to enlist in the air force.

Questioned by fellow students about his experiences in England, Chick told how he was dining in a restaurant when the building was hit by a bomb. "The concussion blew a heavy mustard pot off our table, but did not disturb the light water glasses. Odd, wasn't it?"

"My father tells an anecdote on those days. Getting Accustomed to Raids.

"Getting into a cab shortly after a raid started, he asked the driver what he thought of the war. The answer was, 'Well, we'll last just one week longer than the Germans, and that's all we want!'"

Chick said people in London are getting accustomed to the raids now. They used to quit work at the first alarm, but now "they go right on with their jobs until the planes are directly overhead."

London, however, is no longer gay in the evenings, he said. Theater performances, concerts and moving picture shows are held in the afternoons rather than after dark when the raiders can be expected. The hardships have failed to shake the British sense of humor.

For example, Chick said, the propaganda leaflets dropped by the Germans are eagerly collected and sold

as souvenirs, the proceeds going to the Red Cross.

He told how the Germans destroyed Warsaw by knocking out the Polish air force, bombing the water supply and then showering the almost defenseless city with fire

bombs. This display of the power of destruction by the Nazis has only convinced him that England will win with American aid and that:

"Poland then will rise for the fourth time!"

No Extra Charge

WEST KANNAPOLIS, N. C. (P.)—A man got his neck blistered in a barber shop here when a towel caught afire while he was getting his hair singed.

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